

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Original) A microporous polyethylene film, comprising a blend that comprises a high density polyethylene copolymer which has a melt index (MI) of 0.1 to 100 and a content of an  $\alpha$ -olefin unit with 3 or more carbon atoms of 0.1 to 1% by mole; and a high density polyethylene which has a viscosity average molecular weight (M<sub>v</sub>) of at least 500000 to 5000000, wherein the blend has an M<sub>v</sub> of 300000 to 4000000 and a content of an  $\alpha$ -olefin unit with 3 or more carbon atoms of 0.01 to 1% by mole.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Previously presented) The microporous polyethylene film according to claim 1, wherein the  $\alpha$ -olefin is propylene.
5. (Previously presented) The microporous polyethylene film according to claim 1, wherein the polyethylene having an M<sub>v</sub> of 500000 to 5000000 is a blend of two or three kinds selected from the following polyethylenes (A), (B), and (C):
  - (A) the polyethylene having an M<sub>v</sub> of 1500000 or more and less than 5000000;
  - (B) the polyethylene having an M<sub>v</sub> of 600000 or more and less than 1500000; and
  - (C) the polyethylene having an M<sub>v</sub> of 250000 or more and less than 600000.
6. (Canceled)
7. (Previously presented) The microporous polyethylene film according to claim 1, having a film rupture temperature of 150°C or higher.

8. (Previously presented) The microporous polyethylene film according to claim 1, having a shrinkage force at 150°C of 2N or less.

9. (Previously presented) The microporous polyethylene film according to claim 1, having a fusing temperature of 140°C or lower.

10. (Previously presented) The microporous polyethylene film according to claim 1, having a thickness 5 to 24 µm.

11. (Previously presented) The microporous polyethylene film according to claim 1, having a porosity of 30 to 70%.

12. (Previously presented) The microporous polyethylene film according to claim 1, having an air permeability of 100 seconds or more and 600 seconds or less.

13. (Original) A battery separator, comprising a microporous film according to any one of claims 1 to 12.

14. (Previously presented) A microporous polyethylene film according to claim 1, which has a weight fraction measured by GPC of a component having a molecular weight of 1000000 or more of 1 to 40%, and a weight fraction measured by GPC of a component having a molecular weight of 10000 or less of 1 to 40%, the component having a molecular weight of 10000 or less has a content of an α-olefin unit with 3 or more carbon atoms of 0.1 to 1% by mole.

15. (Previously presented) The microporous polyethylene film according to claim 14, wherein the α-olefin is propylene.

16. (Previously presented) The microporous polyethylene film according to claim 14, wherein the polyethylene having an M<sub>v</sub> of 500000 to 5000000 is a blend of two or three kinds selected from the following polyethylenes (A), (B) and (C):

- (A) the polyethylene having an M<sub>v</sub> of 1500000 or more and less than 5000000;
- (B) the polyethylene having an M<sub>v</sub> of 600000 or more and less than 1500000; and
- (C) the polyethylene having an M<sub>v</sub> of 250000 or more and less than 600000.

17. (Previously presented) The microporous polyethylene film according to claim 14, wherein the polyethylene having an M<sub>v</sub> of 500000 to 5000000 is an ultrahigh molecular weight polyethylene having an M<sub>v</sub> of 1500000 or more.

18. (Previously presented) The microporous polyethylene film according to claim 14, having a film rupture temperature of 150°C or higher.

19. (Previously presented) The microporous polyethylene film according to claim 14, having a shrinkage force at 150°C of 2N or less.

20. (Previously presented) The microporous polyethylene film according to claim 14, having a fusing temperature of 140°C or lower.

21. (Previously presented) The microporous polyethylene film according to claim 14, having a thickness 5 to 24 µm.

22. (Previously presented) The microporous polyethylene film according to claim 14, having a porosity of 30 to 70%.

23. (Previously presented) The microporous polyethylene film according to claim 14, having an air permeability of 100 seconds or more and 600 seconds or less.

24. (Previously presented) A battery separator, comprising a microporous film according to any one of claims 14 to 23.